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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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Ronald L. Wilson, Director
Health Assessment Policy Staff
Office of Health Affairs (HFY-20)
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 15-22
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The attached application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 5,238,944 was filed on April 24, 1997, under 35 U.S.C. § 156. U.S. Patent No. 5,238,944 issued on August 24, 1993 from an application that claimed priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to an application that was filed on December 15, 1988. Accordingly, the original expiration date of the patent is August 24, 2010.

The assistance of your Office is requested in confirming that the product identified in the application, ALDARA™ (imiquimod), has been subject to a regulatory review period within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(g) before its first commercial marketing or use and that the application for patent term extension was filed within the sixty-day period after the product was approved. Since a determination has not been made whether the patent in question claims a product which has been subject to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, this communication is NOT to be considered as notice which may be made in the future pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

An application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. 4,689,338 has also been filed. Our review of the application to date indicates that the subject patent would be eligible for extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. § 156, if elected for extension as set forth in 37 CFR 1.785(b).

Telephone inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-3159.

Karin Tyson
Legal Advisor
Special Program Law Office
Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner
for Patent Policy and Projects

cc: Ted K. Ringsred
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